

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232315

NESCO

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 232315 SENT BONN BRUSSELS LONDON MADRID
OSLO PARIS ROME VIENNA INFO ACCRA BELGRADE BERLIN BOGOTA
BUENOS AIRES CAIRO CANBERRA COTONOU DAMASCUS JIDDA KATHMANDU
KINGSTON KINSHASA LIBREVILLE LOME MANILA PORT LOUIS MONTEVIDEO
MOSCOW NAIROBI NEW DELHI OUAGADOUGOU SANTIAGO SAO PAULO SOFIA
TAIPEI TEHRAN TOKYO TEL AVIV TUNIS USUN NEW YORK DATED
SEPT 30.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 232315

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNESCO, AORG

SUBJECT: BELGIAN RESOLUTION SUBMITTED TO UNESCO
EXECUTIVE BOARD (EX BD) RE MEMBERSHIP IN REGIONAL GROUPS

1. SUMMARY. DEPT HOPEFUL THAT UNESCO EX BD NOW MEETING
IN PARIS WILL ADOPT BELGIAN RESOLUTION WHICH WILL PAVE WAY
FOR ACTION BY NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE (GC), IN FALL OF 1976,
PUTTING INTO MOTION CORRECTION OF ONE OF ANTI-ISRAELI
ACTIONS OF PREVIOUS (18TH) GC LAST FALL. LATTER PROVOKED
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VIGOROUS PUBLIC REACTION THAT RESULTED IN CUTOFF OF U. S. FUNDS FOR UNESCO. PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE IS TO INFORM ALL ADDRESSEE POSTS, WHOSE HOST COUNTRIES ARE REPRESENTED ON EX BD, OF U. S. INTENTION TO PROVIDE STRONG SUPPORT FOR BELGIAN INITIATIVE ANDH TO URGE ACTION ADDRESSEE POSTS' HOST GOVTS. TO DO LIKEWISE. END SUMMARY.

2. THE UNESCO 18TH GC HELD IN PARIS LAST FALL ASSIGNED U. S. AND CANADA TO UNESCO EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP BUT REJECTED A SIMILAR REQUEST BY ISRAEL, LEAVING IT, IN EFFECT, ONLY UNESCO MEMBER UNASSIGNED TO ANY REGIONAL GROUP. AS A RESULT OF THIS AND OTHER GC ACTIONS, U. S. CONGRESS CUT OFF FUNDS FOR PAYMENT OF OUR ASSESSMENTS TO UNESCO UNTIL SUCH TIME AS PRESIDENT COULD CERTIFY THAT ORGANIZATION "HAS TAKEN CONCRETE STEPS TO CORRECT ITS

RECENT ACTIONS OF A PRIMARILY POLITICAL CHARACTER." SINCE END OF 1974, THEREFORE, WE HAVE MADE NO PAYMENT TO UNESCO ON OUR CUMULATIVE OBLIGATIONS OF ABOUT \$22 MILLION, WITH CONSEQUENCE THAT WE WE WILL LOSE OUR VOTE IN NEXT GC (FALL OF 1976) UNLESS AT LEAST PARTIAL PAYMENT IS MADE BEFORE THEN. (OUR EX BD VOTE IS NOT AFFECTED.)

3. ALTHOUGH ONLY GC CAN MAKE REGIONAL GROUP ASSIGNMENTS, EX BD HAS CONSTITUTIONAL OBLIGATION TO MAKE RECOMMENDATION TO NEXT GC AS RESULT OF 18 GC'S DECISION TO "EXAMINE AT ITS NINETEENTH SESSION ANY OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS, TOGETHER WITH THE CASES OF STATES WHICH MAY BECOME MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THIS RESOLUTION." MOREOVER, RECOMMENDATIONS OF THIS KIND BY EX BD HAVE OFTEN HAD A DECISIVE INFLUENCE ON THE GC.

4. FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL VERSION OF FRENCH TEXT OF BELGIAN RESOLUTION:

A. "THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, RECALLING RESOLUTION 59.1 ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE AT ITS 13TH SESSION AND RESOLUTION 46.1 ADOPTED////ITS 18TH SESSION CONCERNING THE DEFINITION OF REGIONS WITH A VIEW TO THE EXECUTION OF REGIONAL ACTIVITIES IN WHICH THE REPRESENTA-
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TIVE CHARACTER OF STATES IS AN IMPORTANT FACTOR,

B. CONSIDERING THAT BY ITS RESOLUTION 46.1 THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, AT ITS 18TH SESSION, AFFIRMED 'THE FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE WHEREBY EVERY MEMBER STATE HAS THE RIGHT AND DUTY TO PARTICIPATE FULLY AND REGULARLY IN THE ORGANIZATION'S REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES,'

AND EXPRESSED ITS DESIRE TO HELP TO ENSURE THAT EVERY MEMBER STATE MAY EXERCISE THIS RIGHT AND PERFORM THIS DUTY,'

C. CONSIDERING THAT BY THIS SAME RESOLUTION THE GENERAL CONFERENCE DECIDED TO EXAMINE, AT ITS 19TH SESSION, ALL OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS, AS WELL AS THE CASES OF STATES WHICH MIGHT BECOME MEMBERS OF THE ORGANIZATION AFTER THE ADOPTION OF THE SAME RESOLUTION,

D. RECALLING DECISION 4.2 BY WHICH THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, AT ITS 92ND SESSION, DECLARED ITSELF CONSCIOUS OF THE FACT THAT THE INCLUSION OF A MEMBER STATE IN A REGION WITH A VIEW TO ITS PARTICIPATION IN REGIONAL ACTIVITIES 'CANNOT BE OBTAINED WITHOUT THE BROAD CONSENT OF THE MEMBER STATES IN THE REGION CONCERNED,'

E. RECOMMENDS TO THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, AT ITS 19TH SESSION, THAT IT ASSIGN TO THE STATES ALREADY MEMBERS OF EACH OF THE DIFFERENT REGIONS BY VIRTUE OF GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS 13 C/5.91 AND 18 C/46.1, THE TASK OF COMPLETING THE LIST OF MEMBER STATES ENTITLED TO PARTICIPATE IN THEIR REGIONAL ACTIVITIES AS THE RESULT OF THE ABOVE CITED DECISIONS, BY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PRINCIPLES CITED IN THE DECISIONS AND RESOLUTIONS REFERRED TO ABOVE,

F. INVITES IN THE INTERVAL (BEFORE THE 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE) THE MEMBER STATES INTERESTED TO MAKE KNOWN IN REASONABLE TIME THE REGION IN WHOSE ACTIVITIES THEY WOULD LIKE TO PARTICIPATE."

5. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NO ASSURANCE THAT CONGRESSIONAL RESTORATION OF FUNDS FOR UNESCO, WHICH DEPENDS ON MANY

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FACTORS, WOULD FOLLOW FROM AFFIRMATIVE EX BD ACTION ON BELGIAN PROPOSAL, A POSITIVE RECOMMENDATION BY BOARD WHEN MATTER IS DISCUSSED NEXT WEEK WOULD INDICATE A CHANGE IN DIRECTION IN UNESCO AND COULD CONSTITUTE AN IMPORTANT FIRST STEP.

6. DEPT IS REASONABLY OPTIMISTIC THAT BOARD WILL ADOPT BELGIAN RESOLUTION DESPITE FACT THAT MORE MEMBER STATES REPRESENTED ON PRESENT EX BD OPPOSED THAN SUPPORTED ISRAELI BID LAST FALL TO JOIN EUROPEAN GROUP. FINAL VOTE AT 18 GC WAS AS FOLLOWS: OPPOSED: BULGARIA, CHINA, CUBA, EGYPT, GDR, IRAN, MAURITANIA, SAUDI ARABIA, SPAIN, SYRIA, TUNISIA, UGANDA, USSR, YUGOSLAVIA; FOR: AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, CHILE, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,

ITALY, JAMAICA, NORWAY, UK, U.S., URUGUAY; ABSTAINED OR
ABSENT: ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL, COLOMBIA, DAHOMEY,
FRANCE, GABON, GHANA, INDIA, JAPAN, KENYA, NEPAL,
PHILIPPINES, TOGO, UPPER VOLTA, ZAIRE.

7. ACTION EUR POSTS SHOULD INDICATE TO HOST GOVTS. THAT
WE FULLY SUPPORT BELGIAN INITIATIVE AND ARE READY TO
COSPONSOR IF BELGIANS AND OTHER EUROPEAN MEMBERS OF
EX BD DESIRE US TO DO SO.

8. INFO ADDRESSEE POSTS SHOULD TAKE NO ACTION AT THIS
TIME BUT MAY DRAW ON FOREGOING TO ANSWER SPECIFIC
QUESTIONS, AVOIDING ANY INDICATION THAT U.S. IS AUTHOR
OF INITIATIVE (WHICH IT IS NOT) OR THAT WE WANT TO GET
OUT IN FRONT. INGERSOLL UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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